## We are not the problem

Connecticut is filled with gun owners. These people are sportsmen, target and competitive shooters, hunters, collectors, and citizens who want to protect themselves and their families. They all have the constitutional right to own and use guns under the second amendment.

These men, women, and children are safe and responsible shooters and pose absolutely no threat to anyone. Any attempt to demonize and criminalize these law abiding citizens is misguided legislation that fails to target the actual solutions to the <u>criminal</u> misuse of guns. The actions of one mentally disturbed individual does not in any way reflect on the rest of the shooting community. If you become distracted with the antigunners agenda to take away law abiding citizen's gun rights, and "feel good" legislation, you will fail to pursue valid and effective solutions. The proposed bills to restrict common sporting rifles and common magazines makes no sense. It's equivalent to banning all Fords after a drunk commits vehicular homicide with one.

Strict enforcement of existing laws, maximum sentences, with no parole, for violent criminals and criminals who use guns in the commission of a crime, along with improved background checks that identify the mentally disturbed, will go much farther towards solving the gun violence problem.

We are not the problem and we vote.

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